

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11

HA-05 SY-05 IO-13 /087 W

-----074986 160645Z /20

R 151230Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4975

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBABANE 2015

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: XGDS4

TAGS: PINR, WZ

SUBJECT: ANC ACTIVITY IN SWAZILAND

REF: (A) MBABANE 0292, (B) MBABANE 0680, (C) MBABANE A-20

1. IN REF A POST DESCRIBED A LETTERBOMB ATTACH ON A.B. (JOE) DUMA, WHICH COST HIM A FOREARM. REF B REPORTED A SUBSEQUENT AMBUSH OF HIS VEHICLE (DUMA WAS STILL IN THE HOSPITAL) ON ITS RETURN FROM A TRIP TO MOZAMBIQUE. NEITHER AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT NOR LATER WAS ANY MOTIVE OR CULPRIT READILY IDENTIFIABLE. IN REF C EMBOFF REPORTED A DISCUSSION WITH DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE MSIBI THAT PROVIDED STRONG CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE THAT BOTH INCIDENTS HAD BEEN PERPETRATED BY SAG SECURITY
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POLICE OR BUREAU OF STATE SECURITY (BOSS).

2. EMBOFF HAS RECENTLY DISCUSSED THE CASE WITH ROBIN SCOTT-SMITH, A WHITE SOUTH AFRICAN LAWYER, WHO HAD EMPLOYED DUMA. SMITH, WHO IS OPENLY SYMPATHETIC TO BLACK SOUTH AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, PROVIDED FURTHER INDICATIONS THAT BOTH INCIDENTS WERE EITHER

COMMITTED BY OR ON THE BEHALF OF THE SAG.

3. DUMA WAS NOT AMONG THE LEADERSHIP OF THE ANC IN SWAZILAND. HOWEVER, HE HAD BEEN ONE OF THE MOST ACTIVE MEMBERS. DUMA WAS THE MAIN CONTACT FOR ANC PEOPLE COMING OUT OF SOUTH AFRICA ON THEIR WAY TO MOZAMBIQUE AND FOR ANC PEOPLE RETURNING SECRETLY TO SOUTH AFRICA. DUMA HAD NOT BEEN ACTIVE IN THE COMMITTEE FORMED BY THE ANC AND PAC TO MOVE THE RSA STUDENT REFUGEES OUT OF SWAZILAND.

4. DUMA'S JOB OFTEN INCLUDED DELIVERING ANC PEOPLE TO MAPUTO. DUMA WAS ABLE TO GET EXCELLENT TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH MAPUTO WHERE IT GENERALLY TAKES DAYS TO GET A CALL THROUGH TO MAPUTO. SMITH FEELS THAT DUMA EITHER HAD AN ANC CONTACT IN THE TELEPHONE OFFICE OR THAT SOMEONE WAS BEING PAID BY THE SAG TO INFORM ON DUMA'S TELEPHONE CALLS TO MOZAMBIQUE.

5. TO ASSIST ANC MEMBERS THROUGH SWAZILAND, DUMA (WITH SMITH'S KNOWLEDGE) KEPT LARGE SUMS OF MONEY, INCLUDING RAND NOTES, IN SMITH'S OFFICE SAFE. DUMA ALSO USED SMITH'S OFFICE, BOTH DURING AND AFTER WORKING HOURS, AS A TRANSIT POINT AND MEETING PLACE FOR ANC MEMBERS. MS. ALZINOR ZONDI HAS REPLACED DUMA AT SMITH'S OFFICE. DUMA HAS GONE TO TANZANIA
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FOR FURTHER MEDICAL TREATMENT.
IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER OR NOT MRS. ZONDI HAS ALSO TAKEN OVER DUMA'S TRANSIT DUTIES. SHE IS FAR SENIOR TO HIM IN THE LOCAL ANC.

6. THERE HAS BEEN A NOTICEABLE REDUCATION IN NUMBER OF ANC PEOPLE MOVING THROUGH SWAZILAND RECENTLY. THERE ARE THREE POSSIBLE REASONS: (A) ANC HAS DECIDED TO KEEP A LOW PROFILE IN THE WAKE OF THE GOS ROUDUP OF THE LOCAL PAC; (B) DUMA HAS NOT BEEN REPLACED OR HAS BEEN REPLACED BY SOMEONE LESS EFFECTIVE; (C) THE SAG ATTEMPT TO INTIMIDATE THE ANC HAS SUCCEEDED (AT LEAST TEMPORARILY).

7. THE LETTERBOMB ATTACK ON DUMA WAS NOT THE FIRST ATTEMPT. HE HAD RECOGNIZED AN EARLIER ATTEMPT AND REPORTED IT TO THE POLICE WHO DETONATED IT WITHOUT DAMAGE. THERE HAVE BEEN OTHER INCIDENTS OF BOMBS PLACED IN VEHICLES AND AT LEAST ONE OTHER SUCCESSFUL AMBUSH THIS YEAR WHICH HAS NEVER BEEN MADE PUBLIC. EMBOFF LEARNED FROM A CONFIDENTIAL POLICE SOURCE THAT THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT MEMBERS IN SWAZILAND HAD REQUESTED PERMISSION TO CARRY FIREARMS TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE

AND SECURITY FORCES. PERMISSION WAS DENIED.
WACHOB

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